



# NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **BLM Approves McGregor Range Resource Management Plan Amendment**

Las Cruces – The Bureau of Land Management has approved the Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) for McGregor Range.

Over the course of five years, the Las Cruces District Office (LCDO) has been developing updated planning decisions that will apply to the withdrawn public lands within McGregor Range in southern Otero County.

With the passing of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act in 1999, Congress reauthorized the withdrawal of public lands on McGregor Range for military use and required the BLM to develop a new land use plan for the area. The LCDO continues to manage wildlife habitat, recreation, cattle grazing, and other public land uses on the withdrawn lands.

The BLM began scoping in 2001. The signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) approves the RMPA and culminates five years of public involvement resulting in a plan for how BLM will manage withdrawn public lands on McGregor Range. Because of the shared management responsibilities on McGregor Range, Fort Bliss has been a cooperating agency for the development of the RMPA/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The plan offers no change to public use of McGregor Range for recreation or grazing. However, it does outline BLM's approach for managing the natural resources on the withdrawn public land while avoiding impacts to Fort Bliss' use of the range for military training and testing missions.

The ROD/RMPA has been mailed out to BLM's mailing list for this planning effort and has been posted on BLM New Mexico's website at:

[http://www.nm.blm.gov/lcfo/mcgregor/mcgregor\\_rmpa\\_eis.html](http://www.nm.blm.gov/lcfo/mcgregor/mcgregor_rmpa_eis.html).

Any questions regarding the ROD/RMPA can be addressed to the RMPA Team Leader, Tom Phillips at the Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess, Las Cruces, NM 88005 or by calling him at 505-525-4377.

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